

Regional Service Council Meeting March 12, 2007

Those in Attendance:

Vickie Jones, Jean Cates, Kelly Persinger, Judge Dan Pflum, Gene Sanford, Emily Creech, Scott Noel, Darla Randall, Susan Lightfoot, Jon Bennett, Mark Munchel, Mike Fleming, Jennifer Munden, Luanne Handy Saylor, Judge Matt Cox, Carl Scheib, Robin Cruz, and Shaye Issacs.

Community Partners Update:

Vickie announced that the request for funding to support a third liaison position was approved. Jenny Lasinger has been hired to fill the second liaison position and will start April 2, 2007. Carl announced that DCS Directors and Judges will be sent minutes of the Community Partners meetings. An example of client satisfaction was shared with the group. Referrals have now been opened to County Probation Departments.

New Members:

Vickie announced that the Council needs a foster parent representative. Mark Munchel volunteered to give Vickie the information for a foster parent to contact. Vickie also announced that Jean Cates will be retiring March 30, 2007 and Mike Fleming will be the acting Director for Wayne County.

Contract Approvals:

1. Mike Fleming asked the Council to approve a contract Henry County has with Dunn Center for home-based therapy with Medicaid eligible clients. Jean Cates made the motion and Mark Munchel seconded. Contract was approved unanimously.
2. Jean Cates asked the Council to approve to continue Wayne County's contract with the Alcohol Abuse Deferent Program for drug screens. Gene Sanford made the motion and Jennifer Munden seconded. The contract was approved unanimously.
3. Kelly Persinger asked the Council to approve a contract for both Franklin and Rush Counties with Safe Passage for a Family Preservation Program with the focus being domestic violence education. This will be an eight week program with clients attending 1.5 hours weekly sessions for eight weeks. The eight week class will cost \$320.00 for each participant. Jean Cates made the motion and Jennifer Munden seconded.

Issue or Concerns:

Vickie announced that DCS will be hosting a regional spring training probably in June. She asked if the group had any recommendations for topics. Legal training, testifying, preparedness for court, exparte communication, and the defense attorney' role were the suggestions made.

Vickie gave a handout on some of the Department of Child Services legislation and briefly summarized what was outline in the handout.

Vickie also announced the transition with the Division of Family Resources and as of March 19, 2007 there will be representatives from the Division of Family Resources, Department of Child Services, and ACS (private company) all co-located in the same buildings.

Jean Cates asked for an amendment to the January meeting minutes. Jean asked that it be shown she abstained from voting on agreements for Birth to Five and JACY House.

Public Comments:

Jon Bennett from the Children's Bureau asked that DCS Directors remind Family Case Managers that a referral needs to be sent for children who are reaching the age of 17 years and 6 months.

Jennifer Munden asked if any offices were encountering problems with the new electronic referral forms that have been put into practice backing up their outlook programs. It did not seem to be a problem for any of the other counties.

Next Meeting:

Vickie announced the next meeting will be May 2007. If anyone has items to add to the agenda please contact her.